

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice and add new claims 9-27 as follows:

1. – 8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) An apparatus for collecting a body fluid for testing for an analyte contained within said body fluid, said apparatus comprising:

a conduit having a first end for admitting a body fluid and transporting said body fluid from said first end to a discharge end of said conduit;

a reservoir for receiving and collecting a flow of body fluid from said discharge end of said conduit;

a test membrane; and

a test space positioned substantially perpendicularly to said conduit and between said test membrane and said reservoir to be in contact with said fluid after said fluid has accumulated within said reservoir to a transfer volume of fluid, wherein said test space is sized to wick said fluid from said reservoir when said fluid in said reservoir attains said transfer volume.

10. (New) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said reservoir is defined by a hollow hub having a bore having a diameter greater than a diameter of said conduit.

11. (New) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein said conduit is coaxially aligned within said bore.

12. (New) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein said hollow hub comprises a vent hole.

13. (New) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein said hollow hub comprises a hydrophobic material.

14. (New) The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:
a porous material within said test space and overlying said test membrane.

15. (New) The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:
test components aligned with said test membrane for testing said fluid for said analyte.

16. (New) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein:
said test components comprise electrodes for electro-chemically testing said fluid.

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein:
said test components comprise optical components for colormetrically testing said fluid.

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein:
said test components comprise optical components for infrared testing of said fluid.

19. (New) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said test space is vented.

20. (New) An apparatus for collecting a body fluid for testing for an analyte contained within said body fluid, said apparatus comprising:
a conduit having a first end for admitting a body fluid and transporting said body fluid from said first end to a discharge end of said conduit;
a planar test body having a first surface and a second surface; and
a hub extending from said first surface and comprising a bore extending through said first surface, wherein said discharge end of said conduit is positioned coaxially within said bore wherein a reservoir is defined by said space within said bore not occupied by said discharge end of said conduit.

21. (New) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said planar test body comprises:
a test space positioned relative to said reservoir to be in contact with said fluid after said fluid has accumulated within said reservoir to a transfer volume of fluid, wherein said test space is sized to wick said fluid from said reservoir when said fluid in said reservoir attains said transfer volume.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said planar test body further comprises:
a test membrane positioned between said test space and said second surface; and

an opening in said second surface wherein said test membrane is exposed therethrough for testing said fluid.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said planar test body further comprises: a porous material positioned within said test space.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said planar test body further comprises: a vent hole for venting said test space.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said planar test body further comprises: components for testing said fluid, said components selected from electrodes for electrochemical testing and optical components for optical testing.

26. (New) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said hub extends substantially perpendicularly to said planar test body.

27. (New) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said hub comprises: a vent hole for venting said reservoir.